REMARKS

Claims 25 to 29, 31 to 38, 40-41 and 43 to 48 are in the application.

Claims 39 and 49 are withdrawn from consideration.

Claims 30 and 42 have been deleted.

As a result of the foregoing Amendment, the subject matter of claim 30 has been included in claim 25.

In addition, a portion of claim 27 has been included in claim 25 to provide a proper antecedent basis for the "first cylindrical rings".

In addition, claim 42 has been canceled in order to remove the objection under 37 C.F.R. 1.75(c).

The Examiner will note that the specification has been amended to provide the required headings.

In claim 27, the word "preferably" has been removed.

Claims 34 and 44 have been corrected by deleting the word "elastic".

In paragraph 15 of the Office Action, the Examiner has indicated that claims 30 and 31 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Since the subject matter of claim 30 has been included in claim 25, it is submitted that claim 25, and the claims depending therefrom, are now in condition for allowance.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the claims 40 to 48 are also respectfully requested.

The device according to the present invention includes an annular piston which carries out displacement movements in order to fill the annular accumulation chamber with equal quantities of material melts and subsequently forces out these material melts form the annular accumulation chamber without mixing the melts. The features of the independent claims make it possible that a relative movement between extruder and annular piston is avoided and a portion of the gravitational force of the annular piston when filling the annular accumulation chamber with material melt is absorbed, so that pressure acting on the material melts and the extruder line is relieved.

With respect to the rejection of claim 32, Applicant would

like to add that the US reference to Richter does not disclose or suggest defining the annular volume for the flow channel 12 between the two outer surfaces 36 and 38 as asymmetrical truncated cone volumes. In the reference, as can be easily seen in Fig. 1, the funnel shape 12 is symmetrical in the cross-section. Fig. 1 of the present application, on the other hand, discloses that the funnel shape 12 formed by the surfaces 36, 38 is asymmetrical in cross-section in such a way that the multilayer melt can expand in the radial direction with a greater distance from the middle line m more easily within the funnel shape when the annular accumulation chamber 14 is filled with the multilayer melt as the annular piston 16 moves upwardly. This causes the build up of this multilayer melt in the funnel shape 12 and in the annular accumulation chamber 14 more uniformly and the border layer between the different material melts remains smooth and is not disturbed. Because of the definition of the first angel and the second angel for the funnel shape of the flow channel 12, the desire asymmetry is achieved.

Accordingly, it is submitted that it is clear from the above that the claims of the present application are now in condition for allowance.

Reconsideration and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested.

Any additional fees or charges required at this time in connection with this application may be charged to Patent and Trademark Office Deposit Account No. 11-1835.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313, on March 2, 2010.

By: _____
Friedrich Kueffner

Date: March 2, 2010